Your Lie in April

6

NAOSHI ARAKAWA

新川直司

I met the girl under full-bloomed cherry blossoms, and my fate has begun to change.

6

四月は君の嘘

KCGM 1375

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Monthly Shonen Magazine Comics 6

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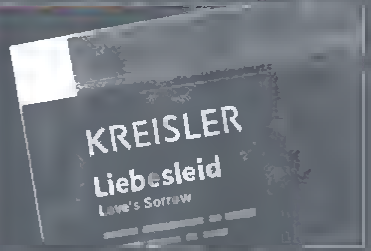


Kodansha

四月は君の嘘

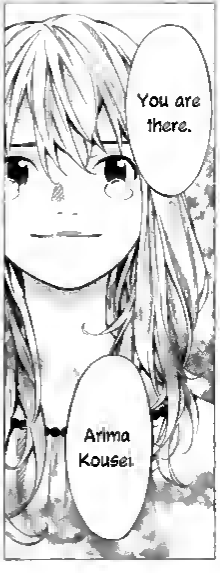
I met the girl
under full-bloomed cherry blossoms,
and my fate has begun to change

6

新川直司
Naoshi Arakawa

Arima Kousei

A former piano prodigy who became unable to play after his mother's death. Was eliminated from the Maihou contest in the first preliminary round. He's pairing up once more with Kaori for a gala concert!



Miyazono Kaori

A violinst with an overpowering personality. Was invited to perform at the Tonia Hall gala concert through sponsor recommendation.

Seto Hiroko

One of the best pianists in Japan. Responsible for providing guidance to Kousei as he learns to play piano. Was a colleague from the same music college as Kousei's mother, Arima Saki.

✲ STORY & CHARACTORS ✲

The former prodigal pianist, Arima Kousei, became unable to play the piano after his mother's death in the autumn of his 11th year.

As a result, his life has become monotone, and he lives his days without chasing any particular goal. But his life changes in his 14th spring, when he meets the personality-rich violinist, Miyazono Kaori.

As Kousei spent time with the sharp-tongued and talented Kaori, his grey everyday life has been gradually dyed with color.

In addition, he performed as Kaori's accompanist for the Towa Music Contest. Kousei was able to overcome his handicap of becoming "unable to hear sound," display a splendid musical performance, and shower in the adulation of the audience.

This performance ever-so-slightly warmed Kousei's heart toward music. Upon observing this, Kaori committed Kousei to performing at the Maihou Music Contest. His first contest in three years. Waiting there were Kousei's former rivals, who had grown greatly over this time frame!

Aizawa Takeshi, who demonstrated and powerful yet elegant performance. Igawa Emi, who had entrusted her thoughts to the music. In the presence of rivals who had presented top-tier performances, Kousei took to the stage. Although he opened with accurate playing, the illusory memory of his mother caused Kousei to sink into a soundless darkness.

However, the boy was able to find light in the depths of that darkness. "I see. I'll play for you." As he thought of Kaori, Kousei began to move his fingers once more. From there, he was able to transform his performance and induce wonder in the bewildered audience.

Kousei was eliminated in the first round of the contest. With the bitterness of defeat under his belt, the boy has decided to fully face the piano once more. He has apprenticed himself under his mother's friend, Seto Hiroko. Kaori and Kousei have reformed as a pair, and have now begun to practice for the Towa Gala Concert!

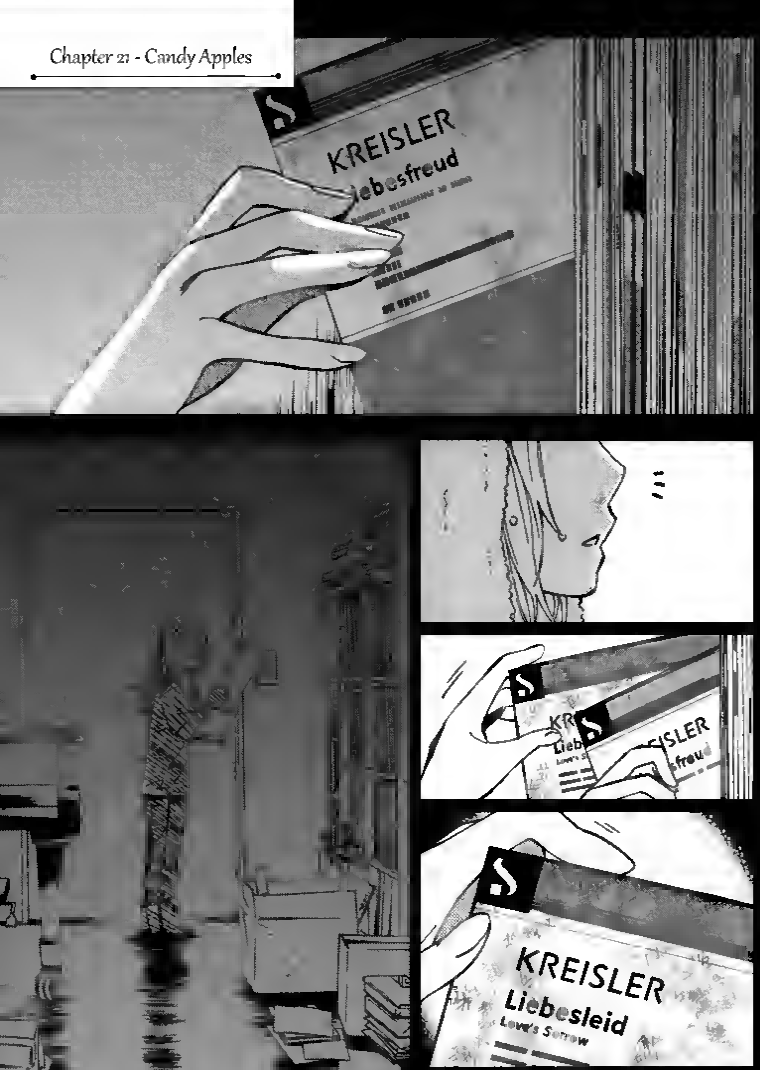
contents

CHAPTER 21: CANDY APPLES

CHAPTER 22: TWINKLE LITTLE STAR

CHAPTER 23: STIMULATION

CHAPTER 24: SHINING LIGHT

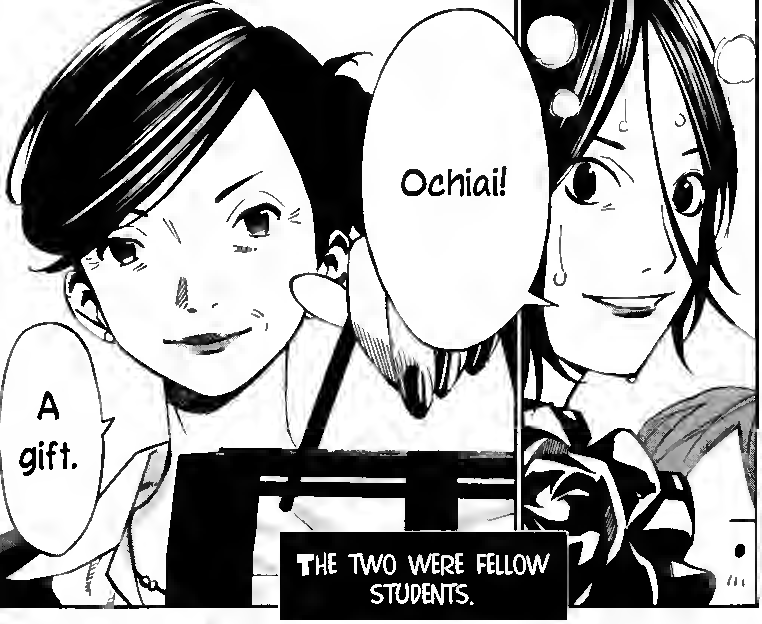

KREISLER
Liebesleid
Love's Sorrow

She's so pretty.

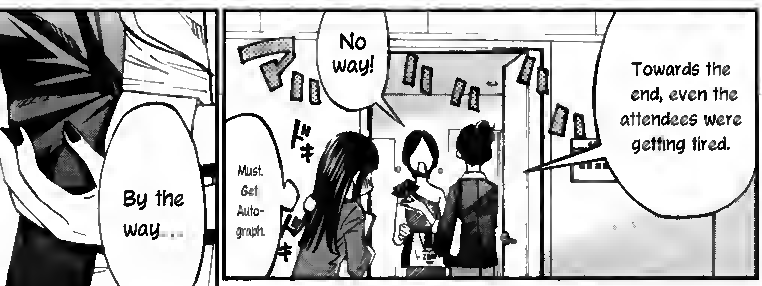
POSTER (MAIN TEXT): SETO HIROKO

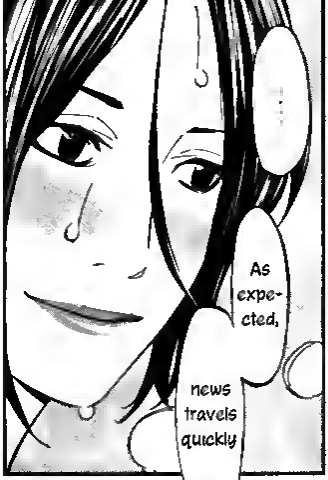
Hiroko-saaan!
Bravo!
Bravo!
Bravo!

Pant
Pant
Pant
So dead tired...
I'm never doing that again...
Even though you're totally exhausted,
Give me some, too.
you've still got a five-song encore lined up, don't you?
Mooom!
Can I have some juice?


Ochiai!
A gift.
THE TWO WERE FELLOW STUDENTS.

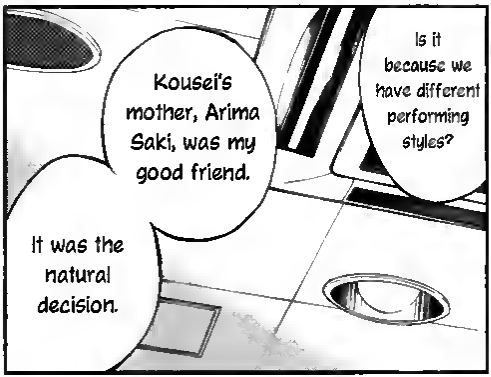
402
SETO HIROKO
You're playing through the set list three times, in rapid succession.
Thanks for the gift.
Whoo! You're the best guest!


By the way...
No way!
Must. Get Auto-graph.
Towards the end, even the attendees were getting tired.


As expected,
news travels quickly

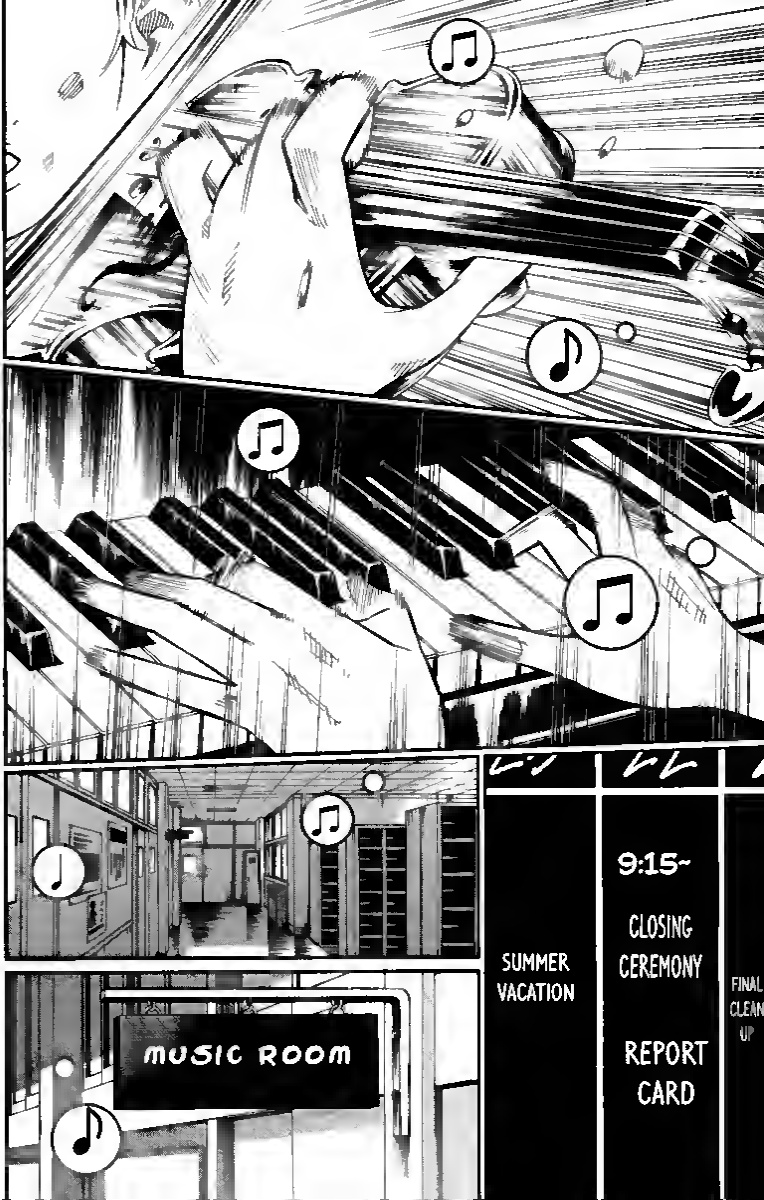
I wouldn't call it anything like mentoring, though.

Arima Kousei.
I heard you've become his mentor.

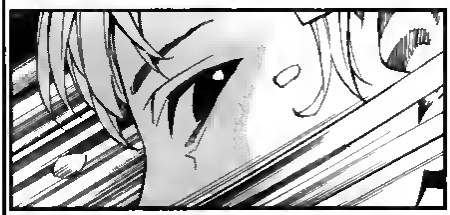

Kousei's mother, Arima Saki, was my good friend.
It was the natural decision.
Is it because we have different performing styles?

That news surprised me.

Arima Saki has been dead for two years,
and you ..
Despite not contacting the family during that time frame,
it's certainly unexpected that you're now teaching him.


SUMMER VACATION
9:15~
CLOSING CEREMONY
REPORT CARD
FINAL CLEAN UP
MUSIC ROOM

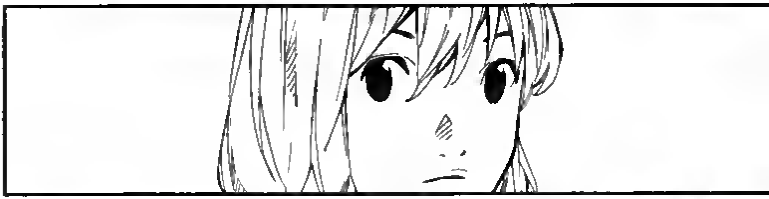
110



GY AA AA AA!
Ura aah!
Not enough focus!!!
What are you doing?!
You still can't hear my sound!!!

What an annoying face!!!
Are you ignoring the gala concert?!
Not at all!!!
I'm trying to...
Again -
They're fighting again.
I don't feel your heart in this sound!!!
You played it annoyingly!!!
Hey.
What?!
F.Kreisler
LIEBESLEID
クライスラー

For the gala concert,
does it have to be this song?
F.Kreisler
LIEBESLEID



F.Kreisler
LIEBESLEID
KOUSEI.
Why Kreisler?
What?
So annoying.
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.
SLEEPING UNDER THE PIANO AGAIN...

Let's do something more mainstream.
Something flashier would be better for a gala concert.
This song is fine.
Don't wanna.
It's fine, it's fine.
If you and I do this, it'll naturally be flashy.

you seem to love this score?
despite how much...
find this so frustrating ...
Why do you...

ABOUT KREISLER'S WORK, "LIEBESLEID".
"LIEBESLEID" IS A VIOLIN PIECE.
THIS PIECE WAS ALTERED BY RACHMANINOFF.
AND THERE NOW EXISTS A PIANO VERSION.
KREISLER
Liebesleid
Love's Sorrow
Hmm?

There was a copy here...
MOTHER LOVED THIS SONG.
PLAYED THIS ALL THE TIME.
KREISLER
Liebesleid
Love's Sorrow
MOTHER...

Sleeping under the piano again...
You'll catch a cold
You've gotten heavier, Kousei

This is a punishment.
THE PIANO ...
ISN'T RESPONDING TO ME.

It'd be better
if you just died.

This song is fine.
I wonder why.
You seem super frustrated.
remembering all these things about mom?
Why am I...

ELM UNIVERSITY
53
SINCE 1825

Cover!!!
Behind you!!! He's running!!!
Kya aaa!
Wataru-kun!
Thanks.
Here.

Watari, even though you've retired, you're still the most enthusiastic...
with all your shouting.
Oh, yeah.
Well, I'm in the recommendation group.
I'll take back the role of star in high school.
If I don't become a star soon,
I'll be left behind by Kousei.
A true friend...
Hey, Kaori-chan,
DON'T SAY THAT...
do you like Kousei?

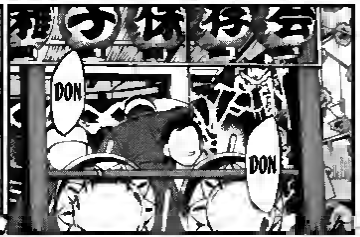
Yeah.
Hah?!
I like you, too, Watari.
I thought so
That's unfair.
Well, that's how it is.
I'm blessed.
I like everyone.
and Mom, and Dad.
Sec-chan also,
Tsubaki, too.
Kashiwagi-san, too
and Taka-pon,

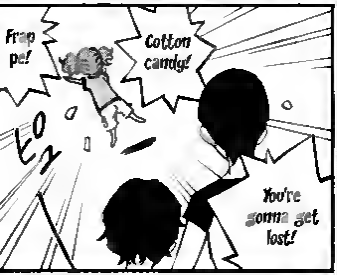
Plenty of people I like
talking about TV from last night,
reflecting while being angry,
smiling while crying.
And I think this:
"Today is...
another colorful day."
It'd be great if the days were to continue
As they are now.
IT'D BE GREAT IF TIME COULD STOP.
That's greedy of you.
Didn't you know...
girls are greedy?

We can't stay like this forever.
But...
we're all moving forward.

DON

Hiroko-san, what about practice...?


DON
DON


Frap pe!
Cotton candy!
You're gonna get lost!

It's fine, it's fine
Gotta take breaks, too.
Let's change the mood.

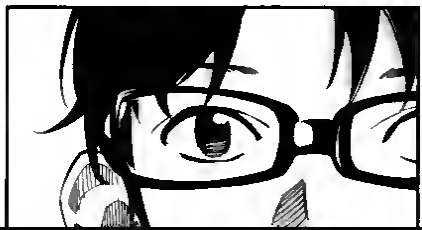
Rachmaninoff's "Liebesleid".
Saki played it often as a student.
TO THE POINT OF MY BODY BREAKING DOWN
When I was a kid, I listened to it every night,
This song...
has mother's aura all over it.
VIVID...
IN GORGEOUS COLOR...
DRAWING NEARER...
IT'D BE BETTER IF YOU JUST DIED
THIS IS PUNISHMENT.
MOTHER.
I CAN'T HEAR.
HELP...

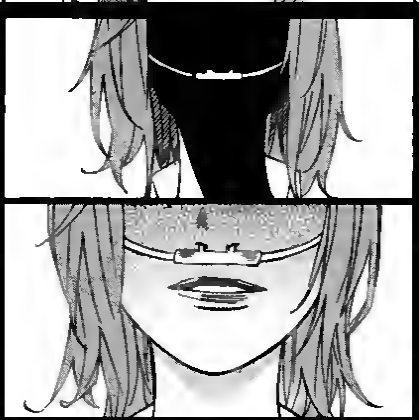
Doesn't mother just...
hate me?
DON
DON
POKE
POKE

Candy apple.
Dislike?
Candy apple.
Not really.
I've never had one...
Thanks.
This girl just can't read the mood, huh?

Defiance toward parents...
is an establishment of one's self;
it's a sign of independence.
People come to listen to you play.
Is there such a thing as a parent who hates their child?
AT THAT TIME...
As a musician, in the process of learning from a teacher,
your differences breed a sense of discomfort, which you should cherish
It's because of those differences that we have individuality

There's no way that wouldn't make Saki happy.



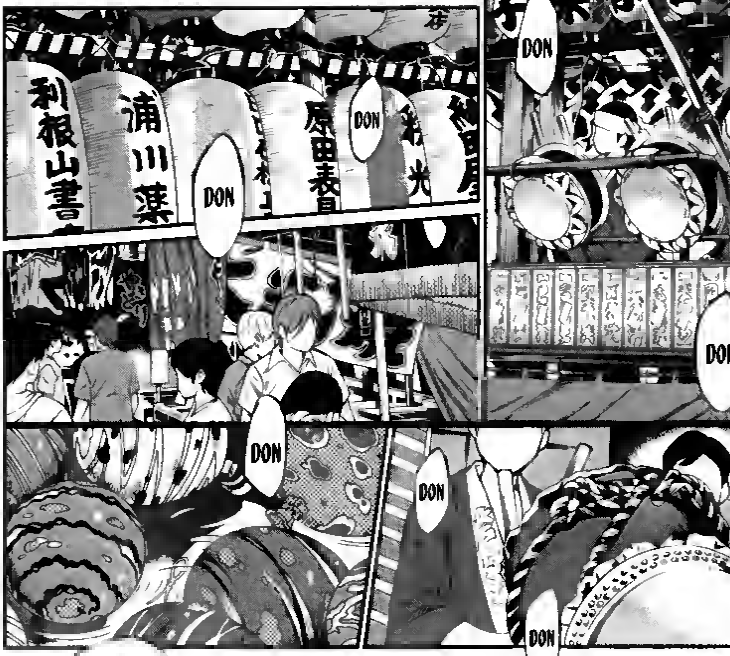


You are in a period of growth,
as a person ...
and as a pianist.

It's a little worrisome.
letting your kid go.
But...
You...
can't stay like this forever.

Kousei.
One day, when you've grown up and left the nest,
I wonder if you'll forget about me.

When I'm gone,
I wonder if you'll still think of me.
Hey, Kousei...


DON
DON
DON

I'm scum,
trying to forget Mom.
Is it okay for me to play the piano?

Play on.
If you're lost,
play the piano.
I'm sure she'd say something like...
クシャクシャ
Just think of what Saki would say.

"Don't worry about the stupid stuff."
"Hurry up and be a man."
Play on.
We are pianists.

Candy apples ...
really are apples.
CHOMP
Is it yucky?
No, it's delicious!!!
Haha.
Of course. It's called a candy apple.
THE LIGHT OF THE FLOATS...
DROWNED OUT THE STARS...
Please don't cry.
Please!
THE SMOKE FROM THE SMOKED DOWN.
Waaaah!!!
Ah, she's crying
THE FESTIVAL MUSIC.

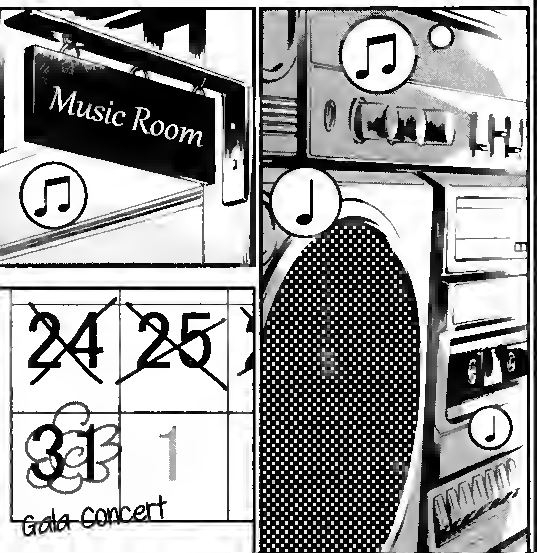
THE SWEETNESS OF THE CANDY APPLE...
WHY IS IT THAT...
EVEN THOUGH IT'S MY FIRST TIME...
I'M REMINDED ...
OF MY CHILD-HOOD?
I WONDER IF I WAS TOO HARSH...
How about butterball potatoes?
I'll buy you candied apricots.

IN ORDER TO GROW AS A PIANIST.
HE MUST PLAY...
BUT...
IN ORDER TO SAY FAREWELL.

四月は君の嘘

I met the girl under full bloomed cherry blossoms, and my fate has begun to change

Ring
Ring
Kreisler
...

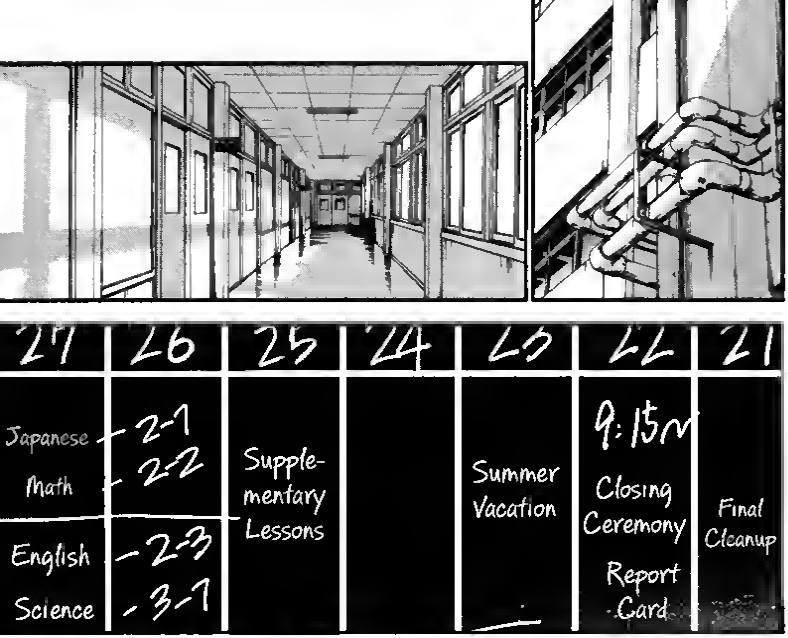


Liebesleid.

Chapter 22 - Twinkle Little Star

Chapter 22 - Twinkle Little Star

Didn't I tell you...
to play more elegantly there?!
If I do that, the violin part won't stand out.
You shouldn't forget that the accompaniment is for support!!!
How arrogant!!!
Again.
They're arguing again.
It'll still stand out!!! Because I'm the one playing it!!!
Keep up with me!
Easier said than done! You're all over the place!
It's peaceful.
grumble
grumble


27
Japanese
Math
English
Science
26
2-1
2-2
2-3
3-1
25
Supple-
mentary
Lessons
24
23
Summer
Vacation
22
9:15~
Closing
Ceremony
Report
Card
21
Final
Cleanup

Substitute this value into the formula,
and you can find the value of y.
With this, the local maximum is...
Set x to 4.

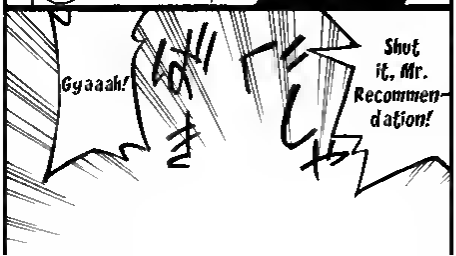
One more lap!
Fight!
Strive for the best!
SLUSH
You guys...

CHI---LL
Could you not chill like that while people are practicing?
Hm?
Where's my shaved ice?
Hm?
数学
I ate it...

プヤーン
She's been irritated by the supplementary lessons.
Tsubaki's really pissed, huh?
My shaved ice!!!

!!
Screw you!

Just give up, Tsubaki.
You're dumb, so it's hopeless.
Hah.

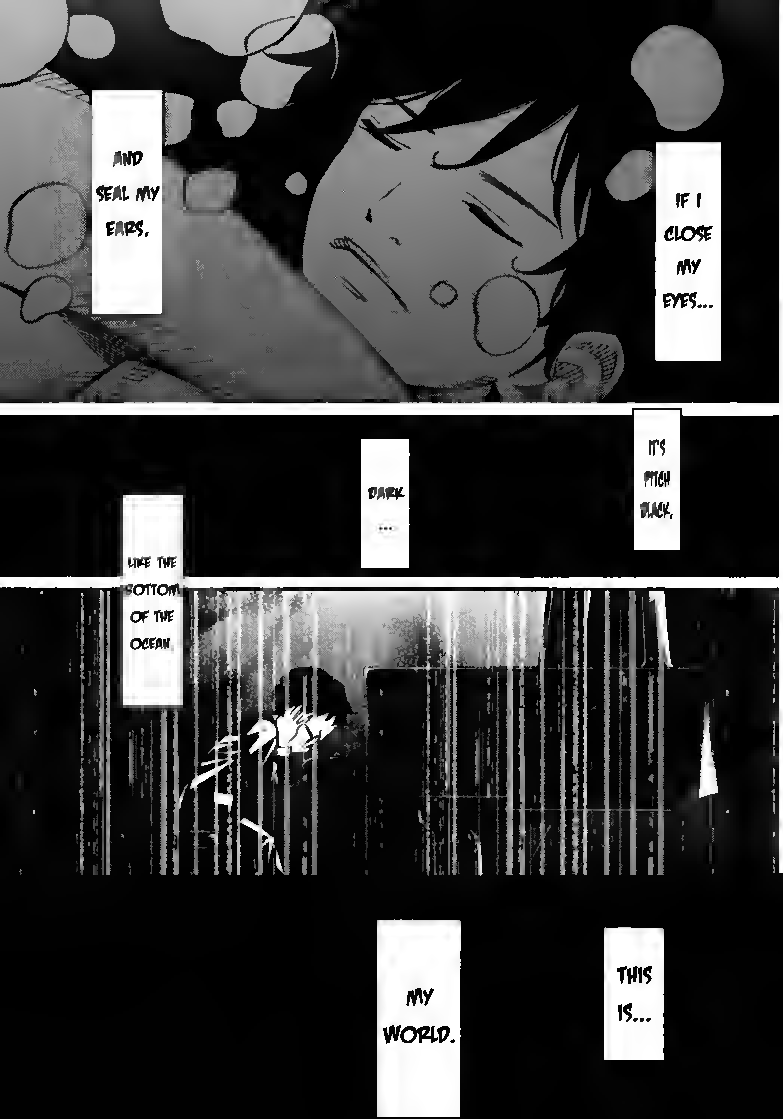

Shut it, Mr. Recommendation!
Gyaaah!

I can't take these lessons anymore.
I want to play! I want fireworks!
I want to go to the festival.
Don't throw a tantrum by the pool.

in the future?
No supple-mentary lessons for you.
I guess you'll be going to down the music path, after all.
Gyaaaah! Somebody help!!! There's blood in the pool!!!
Yup.
It's peaceful
What are you guys going to do
I still...
haven't thought about that at all.
Right now,
I'm focused on the gala concert.

We...
are the best.
We'll be taking the spotlight.

ゴゴゴゴゴ
AS I THOUGHT.
I STILL CAN'T HEAR THE MUSIC.
トプン…


IF I CLOSE MY EYES...
AND SEAL MY EARS,
IT'S PITCH BLACK,
DARK ...
LIKE THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN.
THIS IS...
MY WORLD.

When you say you "can't hear the sound",
doesn't it really mean you "aren't restrained by the sound"?
?
"Restrained by the sound"?
Rather than the sound you hear with your ears,
an image inside you...
is boiling up from the depths of yourself...
and taking over...
without you even knowing.

"Not being able to hear the sound"
That...
is a gift.
Your wishes.
the landscape of your heart.
The sound inside...
didn't you feel it, even for a moment?
A sound loaded with your thoughts.

What are you muttering for?!
Ow!
Ow!
I'll break you into pieces!!! You're a man, aren't you?!

BUT...

And if I really broke into pieces...?
いたい…
ぎゃー!

I'd gather up the pieces and pummel you again,
over and over until you became dust.
UNIVERSI

You're still only 14.
it's part of growing up.
Close your eyes.
Seal your ears
Now play as your heart wishes.

C'mon!
We're gonna be late!
WHIRR
It's because you wanted to keep playing.
Well, you were the one complaining,
So self-ish.
Mr. Perfectionist.
But if we're seriously late,
won't your family get mad?
Hey, look, look!
The sky!!!
Ignored?!

The stars are so pretty
I want to try to speak to the stars.
ミャー
Twinkle,
twinkle,
little star
How I...
wonder...
what you are
Up...

Twinkle,
twinkle,
little
star.
Like
a...
diamond
...
in the
sky.

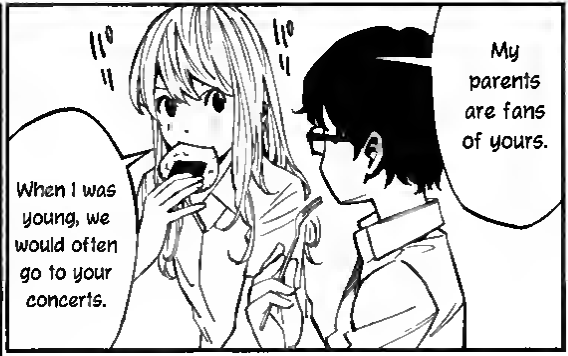
I'm home!
Ma fille
Pâtisserie
A cake shop.
Hold on a sec.
Actually I should get going...
WHAT ARE YOU TO MY DAUGHTER?
DEMON!!!

!
UH...
He's gonna eat me!
I'M...
A..
rima?
If it isn't Arima!!!
Arima?!
Ky aa ah!
G y a a a h!
Rumble
Gleam

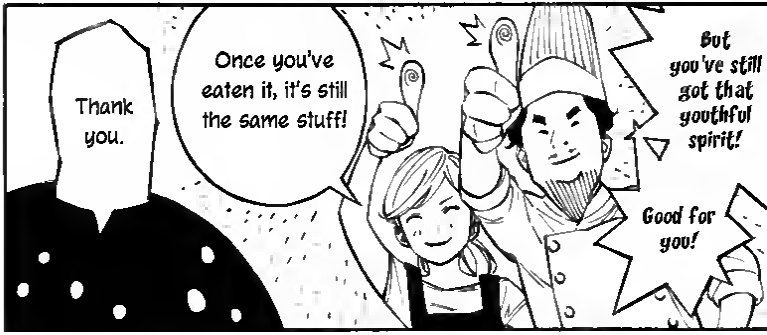
They're only leftovers,
Ah, thank you very much.

We've got test desserts also!!!
UMM... THIS IS MORE THAN ENOUGH...
Oh, no!!!
Canelé, too!
We're out of tea!

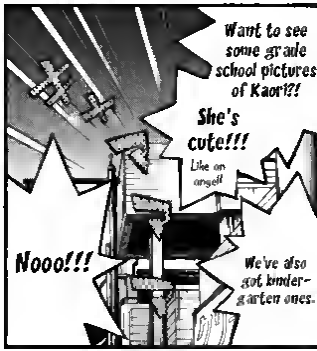
I heard the news,
Arima.


My parents are fans of yours.
When I was young, we would often go to your concerts.

I'm sorry.
Even if the sponge cake itself is good, it's ruined by some bad cream.
How your performance was interrupted,
all the pain you've felt until now


Thank you.
Once you've eaten it, it's still the same stuff!
But you've still got that youthful spirit!
Good for you!

There's so much here
Take these home
Some extra baked goods
Thank you very much.
Today has been a real treat


Want to see some grade school pictures of Kaori?!
She's cute!!!
Like an angel!
Nooo!!!
We've also got kindergarten ones.

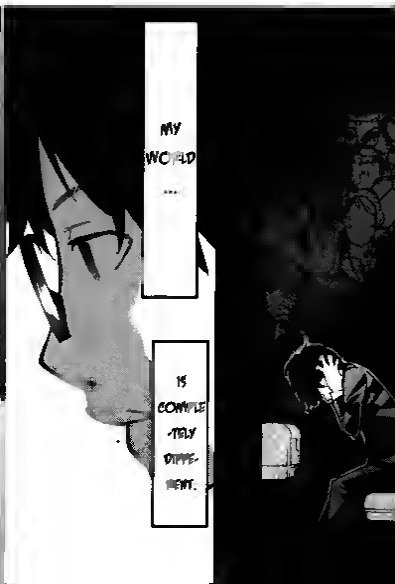
I'll walk you to the road.
Yes.
I'll try.
Do your best.
We'll be rooting for you at the gala concert.
SMILE.
SMILE.
So that's Arima.

He's a good kid, isn't he?
Yes.
Papa and Mama!
Aaah!
They're very friendly people.
That's problem for me!!!
They gave me so much to take home.
It's the end of the wo o o o o r l d!
They showed you my birth pictures!
Even the naked ones!!!
So embar-r assing!!
I can't be a bride anymore!

通学路
STRAY..
If it's Mama, she can't help but feed even a stray dog.
A cake shop...
It really suits you.
BRI-GHTLY
RADIA-NTLY

BRINGING COLOR TO THE WORLD.

A cake shop suits me?
No, no, not at all!
Are you calling me fat?


MY WORLD ...
IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

Huh?
Dunno.
Did you grow taller?
Hmm?
Oh, I see.
It's because you're not looking down all the time anymore

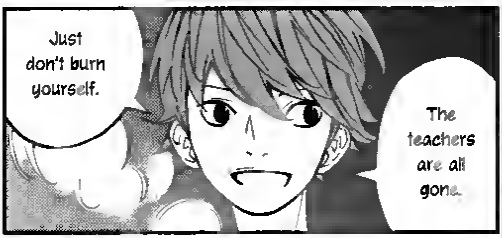
Mmh mm.
Mmh mm.
THE CLINKING OF THE WHEEL,
THE SOUND OF HER UNEVEN FOOTSTEPS,
THE FAINT TASTE OF TEA LEFT ON MY TONGUE.
It's pretty hot this year.
THE RELAXED SMALL TALK.
THE FAMILIAR SCENERY.
It's damp too-- The music sounds wrong
Yeah, it's humid.

NONETHELESS, I STILL REMEMBER IT WELL.
But, you know...
PROBABLY...
I really like summer because of the fireworks.
SURELY..

SURELY...
BECAUSE OF THAT ONE SUMMER NIGHT

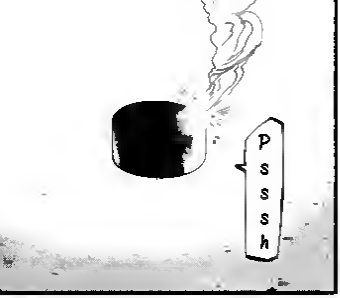
ゴトン
ゴトン
PSHEW

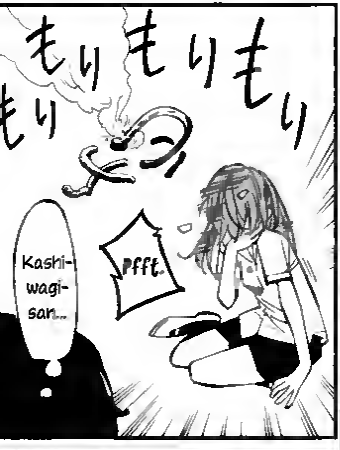
So pretty
Ahaha!
Our first fire-works!


Just don't burn yourself.
The teachers are all gone.

Don't do that!!!
Can't we just toss stuff in the pool?
We brought water, just in case.

Won't we get caught?
Sneaking in to light fireworks


Pssssh


もりもりもり
Kashiwagi-san...
Pfft.

Hey, let's do these next.
Sure

!?
Don't go hogging all the rocket fireworks to yourself.

Aren't these fireworks great?
Shiny yyy-
YEP.
THOSE TWO ARE LIKE A PAINTING.

What are you lookin' at?!
WHY?! WHY?!
Please do not point fireworks at others.
!?

HELP!
HELP!
I CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING.
IT'S DARK.
SO DARK...
Kya!

is a gift.
Not being able to hear the sound...
TRACE THAT SOUND AND FORM AN IMAGE.
THERE IS A SOUND WITHIN YOU.
YOU'RE PLENTY SKILLED ENOUGH.

THESE ARE THE THOUGHTS THAT SAKI LEFT YOU.

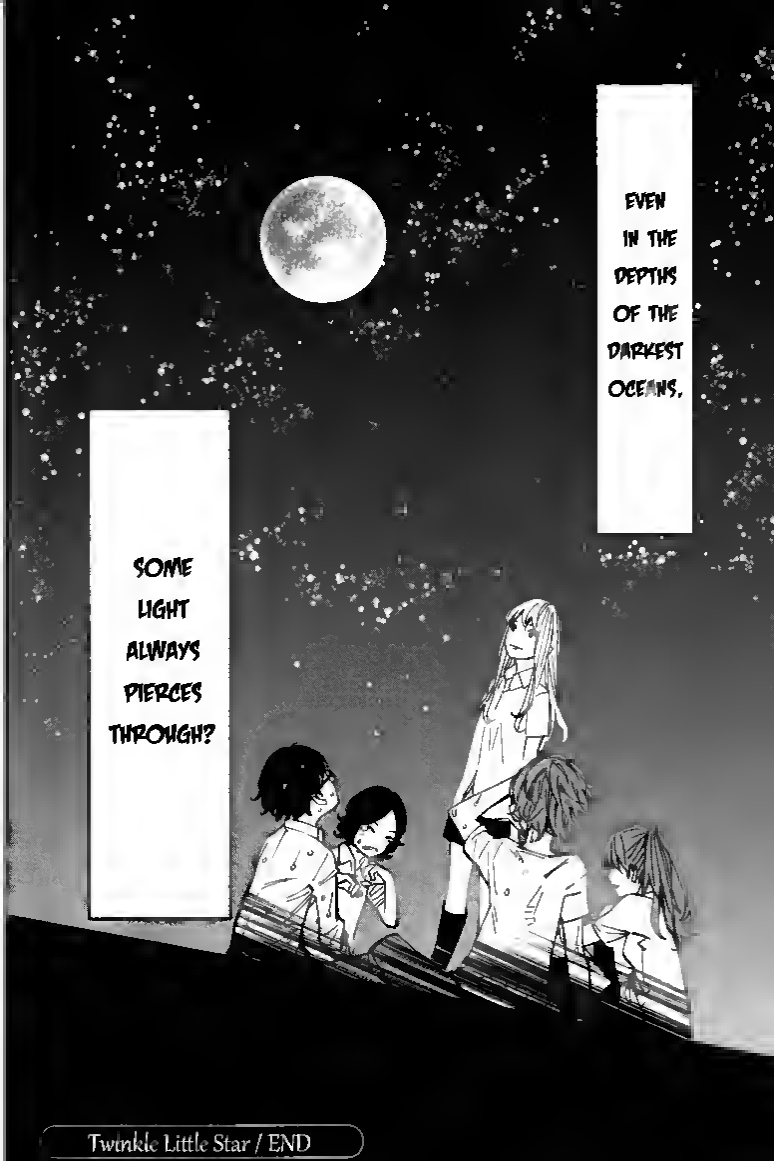
DID YOU GROW TALLER?
DON'T FORGET ME.
Now, play as your heart wishes.
It's because you're not looking down all the time anymore.
OH, I SEE.
BECAUSE YOU'RE RAISING YOUR HEAD NOW.

DUN.
DUN.

DUN.
DUN.
DUN.
DUN.
...
Ko...
...sei.
Kou...

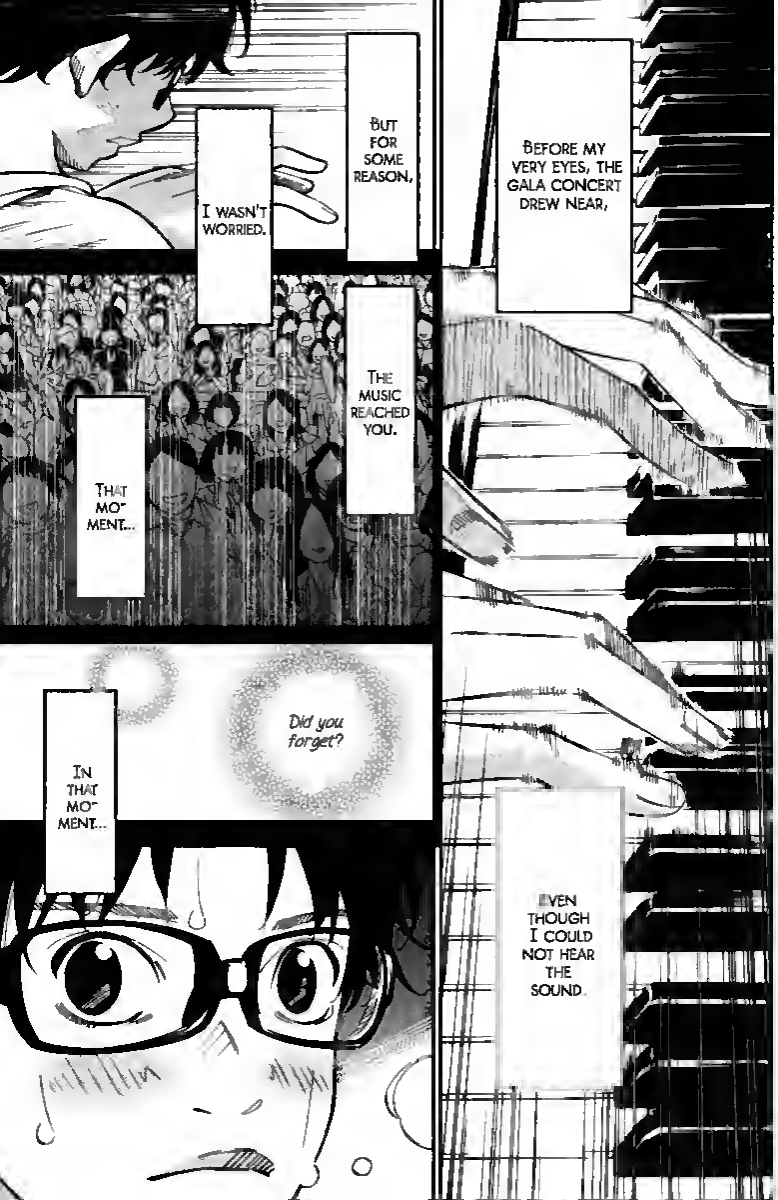
Kousei.
!?
That's just proof that he's alive!!!
That looked like it hurt.
He's alive!!

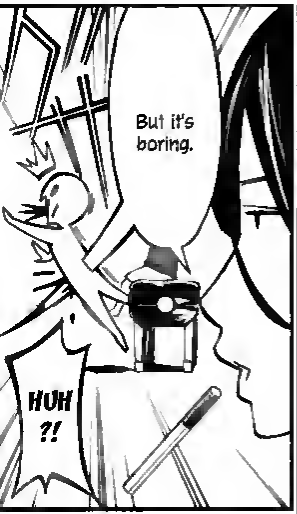
If you fell into the pool and drowned,
it'd be my fault.
You're butting heads with the person who saved you?
Well done.
WAS IT THE POOL?
WAS IT BECAUSE THE MOON WAS OUT?
OR COULD IT BE THAT...


EVEN IN THE DEPTHS OF THE DARKEST OCEANS,
SOME LIGHT ALWAYS PIERCES THROUGH?

四月は君の嘘

I met the girl under full bloomed cherry blossoms, and my fate has begun to change.


BEFORE MY VERY EYES, THE GALA CONCERT DREW NEAR,
EVEN THOUGH I COULD NOT HEAR THE SOUND.
BUT FOR SOME REASON,
I WASN'T WORRIED.
THE MUSIC REACHED YOU.
THAT MO- MENT...
IN THAT MO- MENT...
Did you forget?



Chapter 23 - Stimulation

OUCH !!!
ISN'T IT FINE,
IF I PLAY AT THIS LEVEL?
It's good that you're being humble.
But I think you've misunderstood your role here.

SETO
IF I PLAYED AS I WANTED, THE PERFORMANCE WOULD FEEL SLOPPY.
BUT... I'M THE ACCOMPANIST THIS TIME.
How did you play last time?
I understand what you're getting at
It's a violin gala concert.
The leading role is the violinist.
The accompaniment is the supporting role.

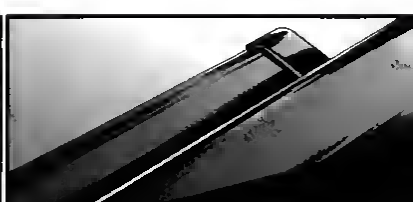
BUT, WHEN THE TIME COMES,
THE ACCOMPANIST AND THE VIOLINIST FIGHT EACH OTHER...
...UNTIL THE BALANCE CRUMBLES.

This is how we refine each other.
Master violinists and pianists.

...about you?
And what..
Come!
Why do different people go on stage?
If the piece is the same,

Kousei,
You should really just...
...SURRENDER TO YOUR INSTINCTS.

TSU-BAKI.
TEACH, THERE'S SMOKE COMING OUT OF TSUBAKI!
MISS SAWABE?!
Wa aah
Wa aah
RIGHT!!!
TURN AROUND !!!



T/N: CALENDAR 341ST GALA CONCERT

Her performance stopped in the middle, right?
It actually had impact
That girl was eliminated in the second round.
I guess even the sponsors are excited for her
I came to see her.
All these middle aged groupies.
Will she cause a ruckus today?
This'll be fun.
I wonder if she'll play properly today
Are they all stupid?
What are you expecting from someone who was eliminated from the contest?
Miyazono this, Miyazono that...

...UNSUITABLE PERFORMANCE.
THAT SORT OF...
The star for today's gala concert
is the contest winner, me.
KAZAMA SCHOOL
MIIKE TOSHIYA
MIDDLE SCHOOL, FIRST YEAR

ユーホー
ユーホー
呪
It's a suspicious person!
In this heat?
キョロキョロ
THERE'S NO ONE HERE WHO KNOWS ME.
ALL RIGHT!!!
Shall we go sit, Emi?
ガ!!
ああああ

I'm the one who told you about Arima's accompaniment.
MISS OCHIAI?!
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
Even though her eyes were clearly shining...
Tsundere?
Here's your program.
I GENUINELY ENJOY VIOLIN MUSIC!
I-IT'S NOT LIKE I'M REALLY HERE FOR ARIMA.
Hey!
Thank you all...
...for showing up today!
SHE'S A WITCH!!!
Let's sit.
It'll start soon.
It got dark.
Click

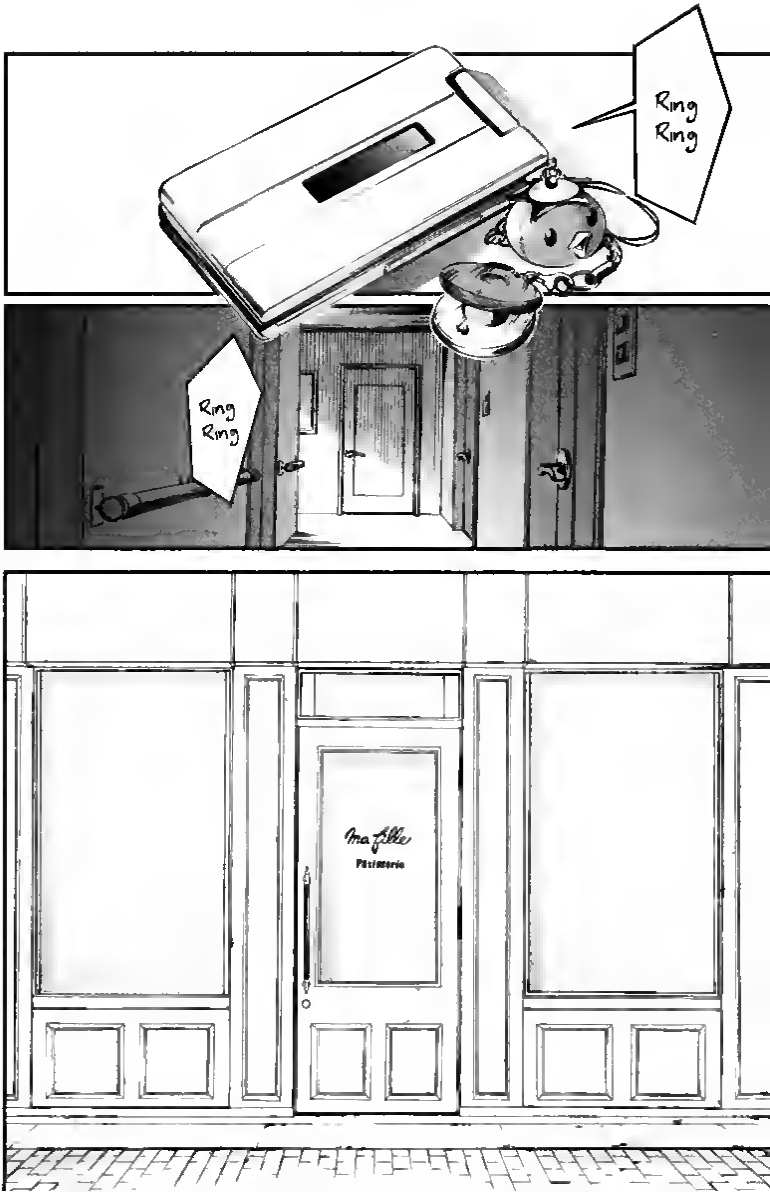
We have the Towa Contest Commemoration Concert.
Starting now,
Let's start this gala concert!
When will Hiroyuki play?
Oi, it's starting.
That host is a TV announcer.
From the elementary school division third place
Miss Kobushi Ai!
Clap
Clap
Clap

Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5.
Mike's version sounded better.
キラーン
There aren't any judges for the gala concert,
so you can play genuinely.
MISTAKES ARE FORBIDDEN!!!
GO, AI!!!
Death aura?
As expected of this skill level
I can listen to this comfortably
Tmg
Tmg

Miyazono Kaori
Sumiya Public Mid
Piano: Arima Kous
...should be coming up soon.
The one I'm really interested in.
Well then...
Flip

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!

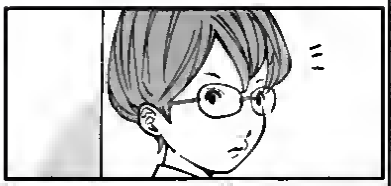
キェー!!!
IS SHE MICHEL-ANGELI?!
IS SHE POGO-RELIC?!
HOW CAN THE VIOLINIST HERSELF NOT BE HERE?!
T/N: BOTH VERY FAMOUS PIANISTS. KOUSEI IS IMPLYING THAT KAORI IS ACTING LIKE A HOT SHOT THAT EVERYONE MUST WAIT FOR.
WHAT DO WE DO?!
コラ
Does Miyazono Kaori normally do this?
Man, the concert has already started.
Is Kao-chan still not here yet?
Ring Ring
Ring Ring
I just called her a while back but...
she isn't picking up at all.


Ring
Ring
Ring
Ring
ma fille
Pâtisserie

YES, MA'AM !!!
Please continue calling her.
THE PHONE !!!
ピキーン
At this rate, the performance...
What a pain.
Let's go in to prepare first.
That way, we'll be ready for Miyazono.
I'm counting on you.
Do your best!
YES!!!

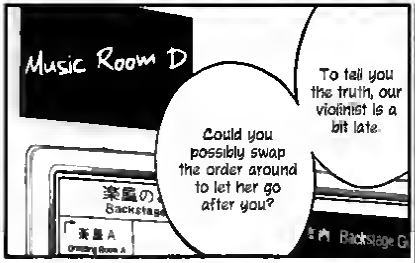
What do we do?
Maybe get a staff member to change the order?
I'll make a request.
Since it's a gala concert, they probably have some degree of flexibility
If we can get the other performers to understand,
we'll be able to stall for Miyazono to make it.
WHY ...?
If that doesn't work, we're in trouble
Yep
WHY AREN'T YOU...?
WHAT WILL YOU DO?
Let's do this song

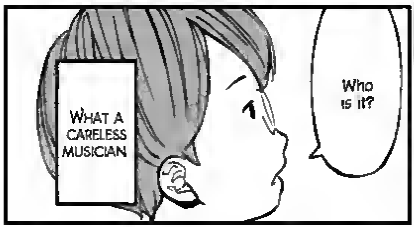
At this rate, I'll look like a fool.
Weren't you doing this for fun?
That was great
What a beautiful piece.
Clap
Clap
It's been a while since I've been this excited
It'll soon be Miyazono Kaori's turn
Miss Miyazono?
What will you do this time,



What's going on?
Miike-kun.

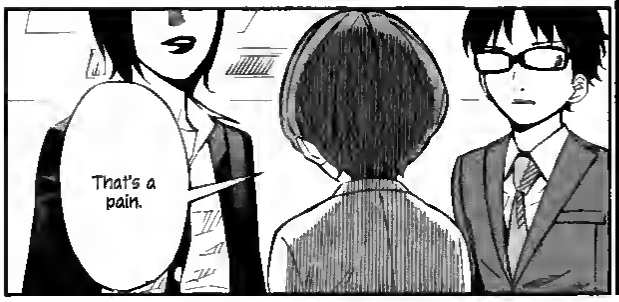
PLEASE!!
That's very problematic.
SHE'S ON A BUS HEADING HERE RIGHT NOW!!! (LIE)
Even if you say that,
it's not at my discretion...


Music Room D
Could you possibly swap the order around to let her go after you?
To tell you the truth, our violinist is a bit late.
Backstage G


WHAT A CARELESS MUSICIAN
Who is it?

Miike-kun is the winner of the middle school division...
NICE TIMING!!!

A girl named Miyazono Kaori.
She'll be here soon.
Can we let her go after you?
...IS ONLY TALKING ABOUT MIYAZONO KAORI.
EVERY-ONE...
Miss Miya-zono
She's the best!
I want to see Miyazono play
NO ONE SEES ME AT ALL.
IT'S AS IF...



ISN'T THAT SCREWED UP?

EVEN THOUGH I WON...

I'm sorry.
That was an unreasonable request
We'll have to cancel her performance.
Yes..
She sounds like fun.
She's today's centerpiece.
F-
FOR STARTERS,
IT'S HER FAULT FOR BEING LATE...
...ON A DAY LIKE THIS.
HER ATTITUDE TOWARDS LIFE IS ALSO SLOPPY.
BECAUSE HER PERFORMANCE IS MESSY LIKE THAT,
JUST BECAUSE SHE WINS A LITTLE BIT,
SHE THINKS SHE'S SPECIAL...
AND CAN COME LATE LIKE IT'S NO BIG DEAL.

HER KIND...
AND WON,
EVEN THOUGH I PRACTICED SO HARD
Just music in the sheets...
ISN'T THAT WHAT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW?
What are you--?
Her kind of music is nothing.

Our apologies for making such a request before the performance.
Understood.
(step)
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE SAYING, BRAT?!
Please continue as the program indicates, with Mr. Miike in the winner's slot.
HE'S SAYING SUCH THINGS ABOUT YOUR PARTNER.
HEY, KOUSEI.
ISN'T IT ANNOYING?!
However....
The spotlight...

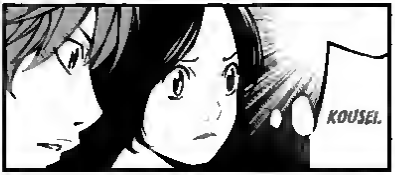
The spotlight...
...will be shining on us today
Clap
Clap
Clap
Next is...
Finally...
Miss Miya-zono
It's Miya-zono

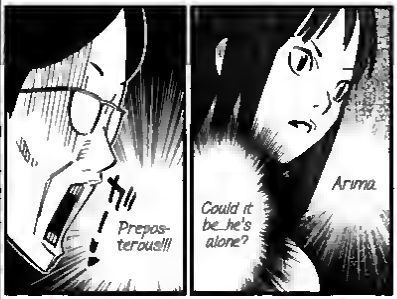
Step
IT'S MIYAZONO KAORI.
DID SHE MAKE IT?!
She's here
Click
The sponsor's recommendation for the middle school division,
Miss Miyazono Kaori.

step
step
step
Hmm?
step
step
step
step
step

He's alone?
Where's Miyazono?
Isn't he the accompanist?
What about the violinist?

This is problematic, Miss Seto...
We're here to celebrate, so please overlook this
STAFF
His ad-lib is very exciting
But...


KOUSEI.


Arima.
Could it be...he's alone?
Preposterous!!!

I'll go.
Kousei...
Yep.
Really?
Yes.
By yourself?
OF COURSE IT'S ANNOYING.
I'M REALLY PISSED!!!
SAYING SUCH THINGS ABOUT YOUR PARTNER,
ISN'T IT ANNOYING?"
Didn't you say so yourself, Miss Hiroko?

That's why...
I'll show him.
What kind of musician...
...Minazono Kaori is.

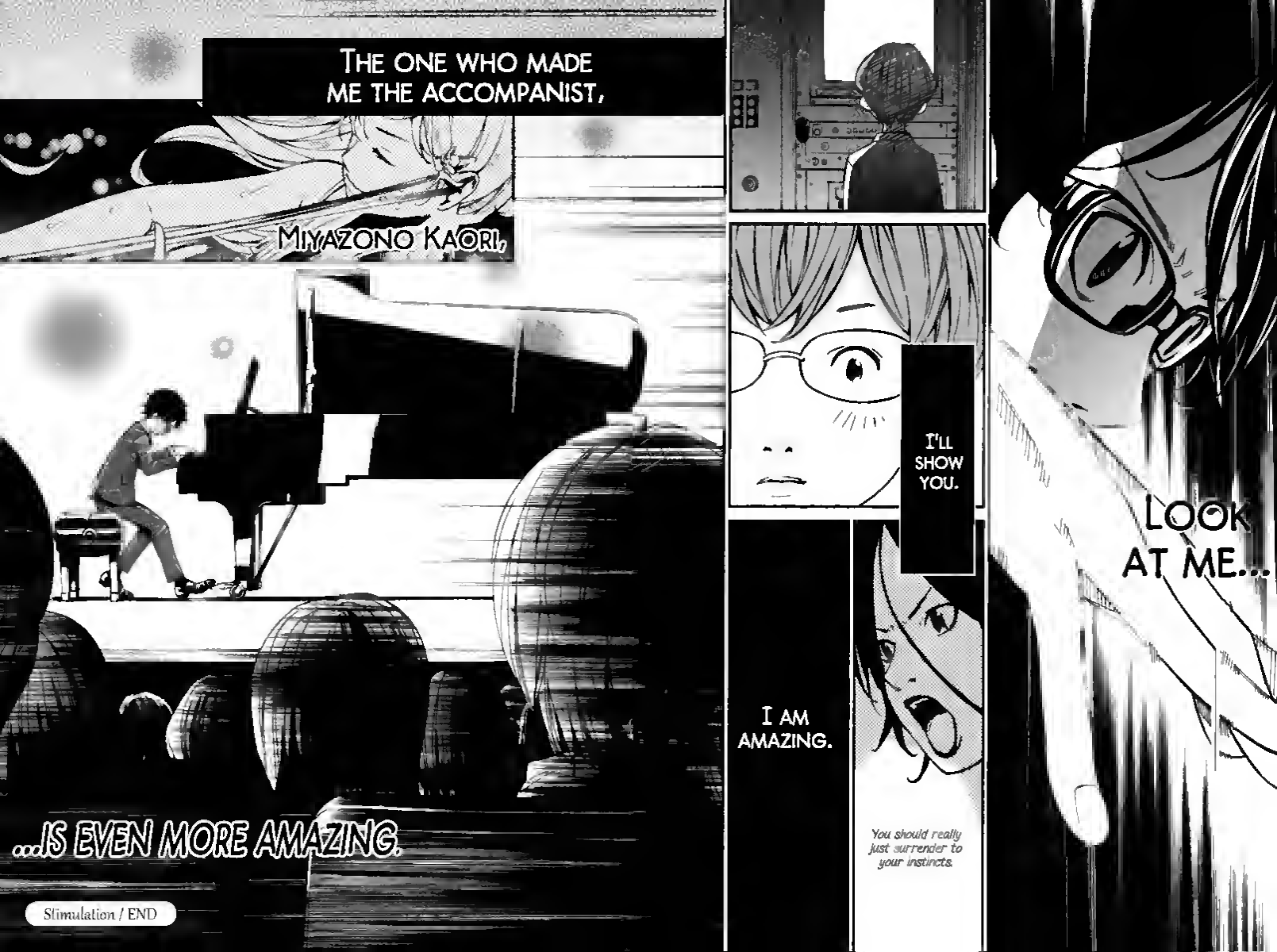
Besides,
I was ordered to by that crazy girl.
HE KIND OF RESEMBLES ME.
We have to stand out at this gala concert.

But what is he going to play?!
He says that...
He's really by himself?
What about Miya-zono?
Aaah
Is he going to play piano?
Everyone is disap-pointed.
It's not really a gala.
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT.
BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T COME.
BECAUSE YOU FORCED ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU.

So it really is...
He's going to play by himself
Splash
BECAUSE YOU'VE RETURNED ME TO THE STAGE.
ALWAYS...
THE PEOPLE WAITING "FOR YOU."
AREN'T EXPECTING MUCH OF ME
YOU STIMULATE AND STIR ME UP.

000
69
Oh!
Look at me
Look at me

KREI-
SLER
LIEBES-
LEID.
RACH-
MANINOFF'S
ARRANGE-
MENT FOR
PIANO.
LOOK AT ME...
LOOK
AT ME.


THE ONE WHO MADE ME THE ACCOMPANIST,
MIYAZONO KAORI,
...IS EVEN MORE AMAZING.
I'LL SHOW YOU.
I AM AMAZING.
You should really just surrender to your instincts.
LOOK AT ME...

ボェ
Let's come up with a scheme~
A schme~
My husband is an idiot~
An idiot~
ボェ
Come and pick me up~
Hiro-chan,
or I'll cheat on you~
did you fight with your husband again?

Kousei,
Tsk
Tsk
this isn't fighting,
Well, that's the case whenever Hiro-chan stays at our place
WHAT?!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
CHILDREN SHOULDN'T—
OUR PATH HAS BEEN DECIDED.
this is a war.
We'll reconcile when the world ends
Hup
Your husband is an idiot~
Let's come up with a scheme!

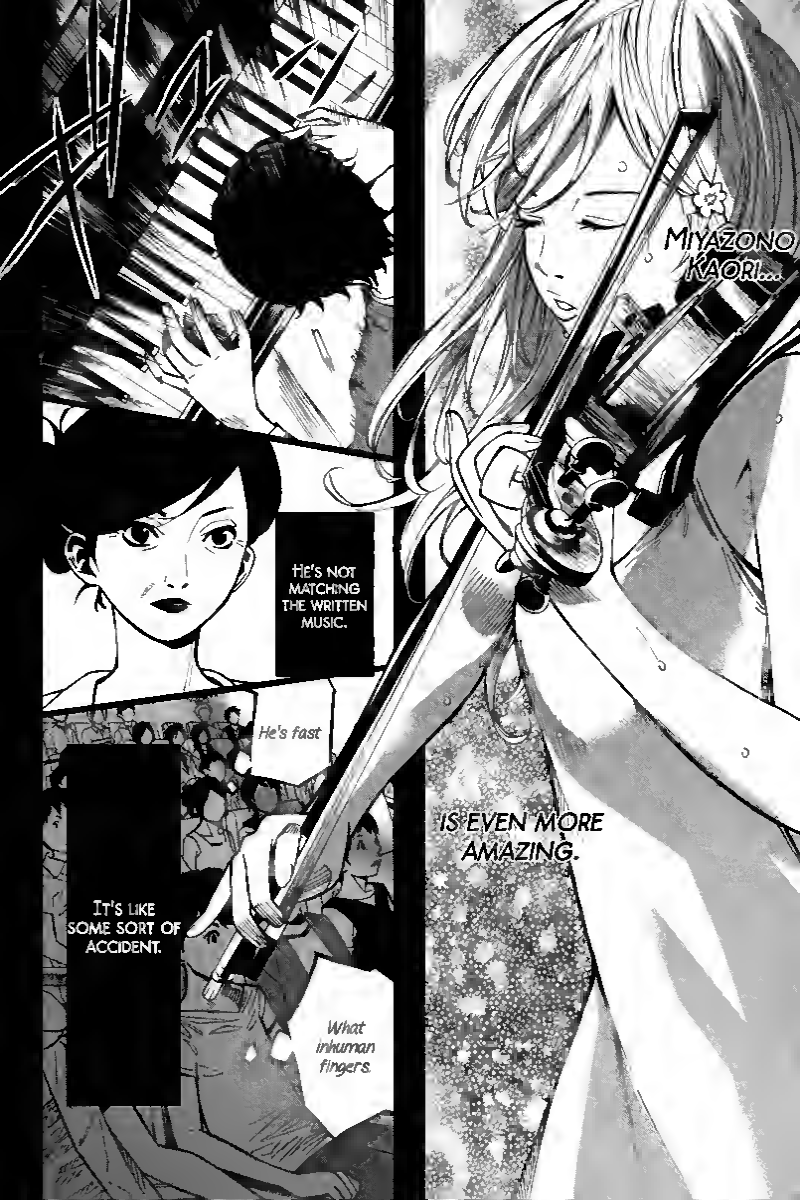
Well, it's because I always hear it....
Saki never taught him.
HUH? WHAT?
KOUSEI,
HOW ARE YOU ABLE TO PLAY THE PIANO?
?
Why wouldn't I be able to play?
Let's...
make Kousei a pianist!!
What is it, Hiroko?
SAKI!!!

a genius!
Kousei is...

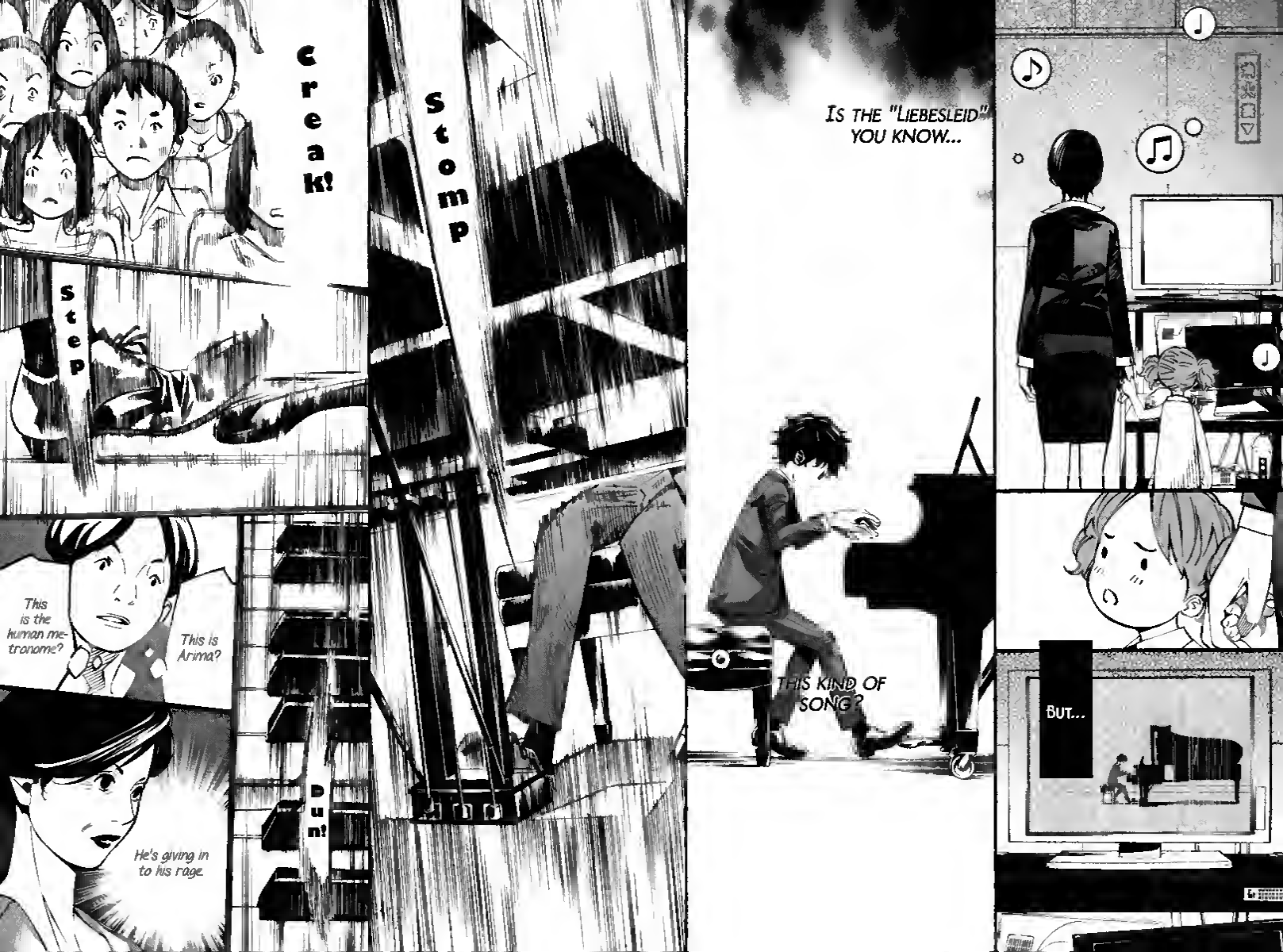
Rachmaninoff's
arrangement for the piano.
This is...
Kreisler's
"Liebesleid",
Again!!!
Something unprecedented.
Kousei...
Is this the accompanist's part?
What is he doing...?
Isn't this a violin concert?
Was this in the program?
Is this the performance?
started playing by himself
The accompanist...

LOOK AT ME.
WATCH ME.
SEE WHAT I'M DOING.
Stupe-ndous.
His fingers are so quick.

Isn't it simply a performance?
I AM AMAZING.
Your music is nothing.

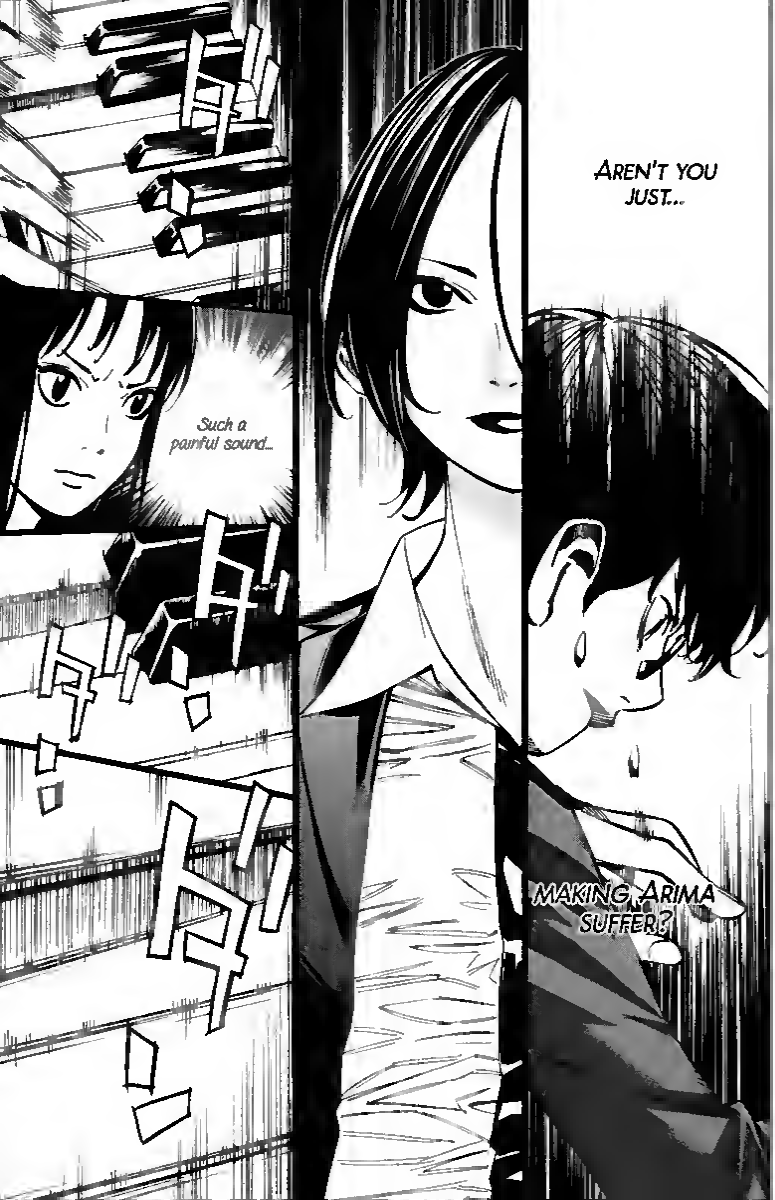

MIYAZONO KAORI...
HE'S NOT MATCHING THE WRITTEN MUSIC.
He's fast
IT'S LIKE SOME SORT OF ACCIDENT.
What inhuman fingers.
IS EVEN MORE AMAZING.

As expected of a perfectionist
He must have drilled into the piano version over and over again.
In order to make this piece his own,
But, even so, to play the piece like this through sheer memorization ...
You were always...
Facing it alone.
It's because you're...
always thinking of your mother.
Yes.


creak!
Step
Stomp
Dun!
This is the human metronome?
This is Arima?
He's giving in to his rage.
Is the "Liebesleid" you know...
this kind of song?
But...

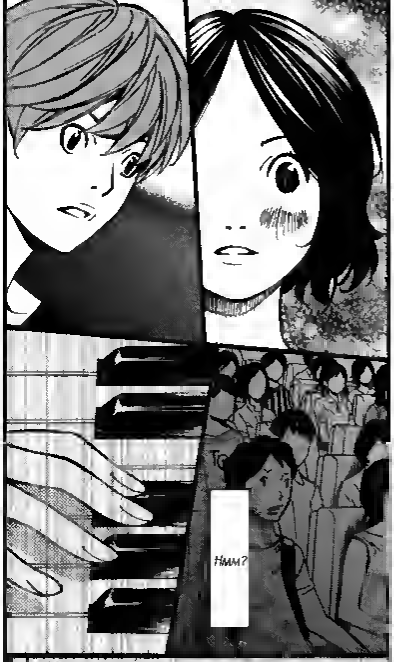
HE'S NO LONGER FIGHTING HIS FEELINGS.
This is hurting my ears.
I'M DISAP-POINTED.
Hmph.
Wow
He's playing really fast
Such force
. . . .

This coarseness and ferocity don't suit him.
He's happy just showing off his skills.
He's no different from any other kid
As I expected,
this can't be called a performance.
You've made a mistake,
Hiroko
Arima has clearly forgotten our world.
He's in no condition to be on stage.


Such a painful sound...
Aren't you just...
making Arima suffer?

HMM?
STOMP
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
HITTING THE KEYS THIS FORCEFULLY?
WAS I...

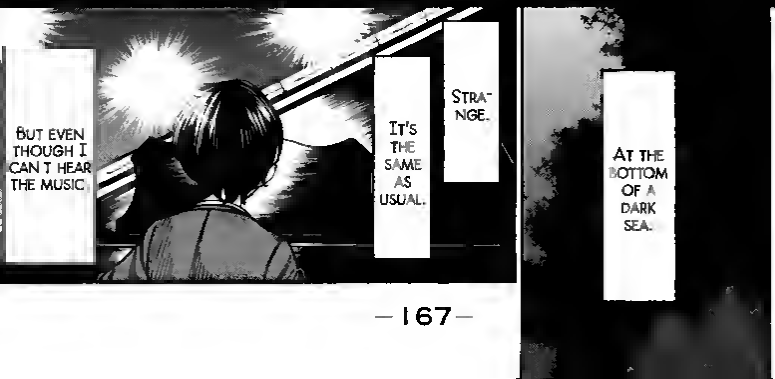
So this kind of performance exists, too
It's my first time seeing something like this
It feels all clunky
THIS ISN'T GOOD.
MY FINGERS ARE ALL STIFF.
I'M PUTTING TOO MUCH FORCE INTO THIS.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE REALIZED THIS...
SINCE THE SOUND DISAPPEARED ON ME
NOT BEING ABLE TO HEAR THE SOUND
IS A GIFT.
THIS SONG ...
SHOULDN'T BE PLAYED LIKE THIS
THIS SONG ...
FROM MY CHILDHOOD ...



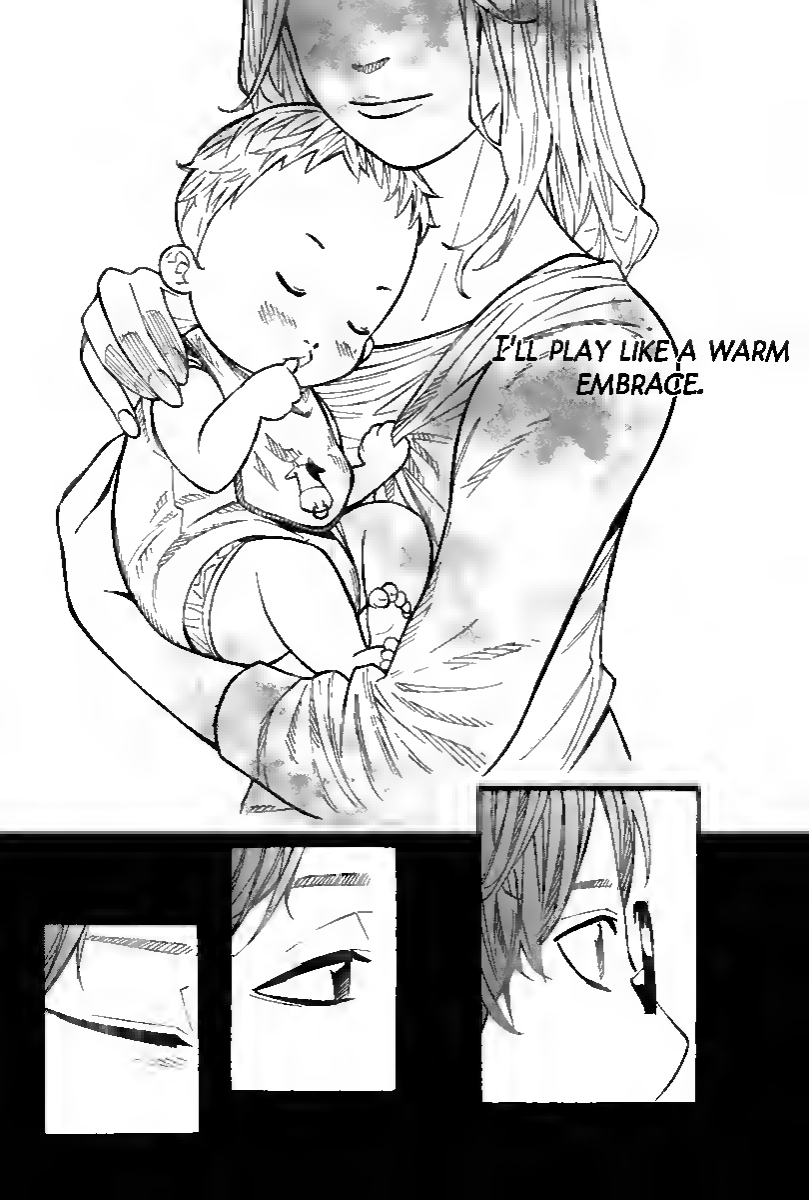
THIS SONG, WHICH MOTHER LOVED...

I THINK SHE PLAYED IT LIKE THIS.

THE MUSIC IS CHANGING.



There is still music within me.


I'LL PLAY LIKE A WARM EMBRACE.

THE ONE WHO TRAPPED YOU...
WAS ME.
KOUSEI.

Waiting Room
Help..
The sound ...
Help me
Some-body ...
BACK THEN
IF I HAD KNOWN
The piano ...
Help ...
Some-body help me...
My ears...
Some-body...
I can't hear.
Help.
Mom.

FOR SUCH A CHEERFUL KID...

BECAUSE I SAID SUCH A THING...
Let's make Kousei a pianist!

IT'S MY FAULT.

I BROKE THEIR HAPPY MOTHER-SON RELATIONSHIP.
IT'S MY FAULT.

MUSIC HAS CAUSED...
SO MUCH PAIN FOR KOUSEI.

I'm sorry.
IF MUSIC HAS CAUSED KOUSEI NOTHING BUT PAIN,
I'm sorry.
I'm sorry.
I'm sorry
I'm sorry.
A PIANIST LIKE ME...
I'm sorry.
I'm sorry.
SHOULD NEVER BE BY HIS SIDE.
I'm sorry.

TRANS-
PARENT,
PALE,
GATHE-
RING
TOGE-
THER...
UNDER
THE
WATER.
The scenery
is flowing.

LIGHT IS SHINING.
...THIS SONG HAS MOTHER'S AURA ALL OVER IT.
I THOUGHT SO.
AAH.
NO MATTER WHAT I DO,
I CAN'T HELP BUT REALIZE...

MAIHOU MUSIC CONTEST
PARTICIPANT LIST
265
ARIMA KOUSEI
SUMIYA PUBLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL,
THIRD YEAR
The Well tempered clavier B

Does something hurt?
I'm sorry.
Are you okay?
I'll behave.
ヒュー
Mooo om.
That anime we recorded ...
So please don't cry
Pain, pain, go away
It'll make me sad, too.

THE KOUSEI WHO HAD LOST SAKI ...
I want to experience that sight once more.
I'm not seeking any sort of result.
One day in April,
I met an odd violinist.

WAS ABLE TO BELIEVE.

I want to be an odd pianist
I've begun to think...
I'VE MET SOMEONE...
WHO CANNOT BE REPLACED.

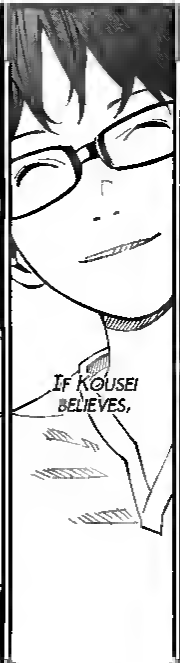
I will go

Help!
Mother.

RUN AWAY ANYMORE

I WON'T ...

A PIANIST LIKE ME CAN'T HELP...
BUT TO BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF MUSIC.


IF KOUSEI BELIEVES,

I WON'T LET GO OF THAT HAND.

Wow!
EACH NOTE IS GLISTENING.

THAT Arima?
This is...
Kousei.
This mess...
What is this?
His performance changed, just like last time.

JUST, PLAY WELL...
LISTEN TO SAKI.
A different interpretation. A different presentation.
Compared to the introduction, where he was a slave to his emotions.
AAH.
THE MUSIC ...
WHAT IS THIS MUSIC...
SEEKING?

LIKE WATERCOLORS...
DISSOLVING INTO PATTERNS
SHINING.
EXPA-NDING
THE MUSIC...!
IS BEING DYED WITH COLOR.
Help
I can't hear the sound

I wonder if Mom would forgive me.
Saki,
watch carefully.
Wounds from music...
should be healed with music.

OUR KID...
IS BIDDING HIS FINAL FAREWELL.
To be continued

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